(d) if so, what action is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (d) Tanda is not a station and no trains stop there. There was a demand for opening of a halt station at Tanda village between Ramnagar and Pirumadara stations. This proposal has been exmined, but found not justified either financially, due to meagre traffic prospects, or on passenger amenity grounds as the area is well served with road services.

Introduction of new trains for Andhra Pradesh

532. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any plans to introduce new trains in Andhra Pradesh in 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details of new trains under consideration for 1995-96; and

(c) whether S.C. Railway will consider introducing a late night express train between Hyderabad-Rajahmundry?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) New trains being introduced serving Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96 include:—

1. Tirupati-Bombay Express (Bi-weekly)

2. Tirupati-Cuddapah Express

3. Nagorcoil-Bombay Express (Weekly) (via Dharmavaram-Wedi

4. Puri-Ahmedabad Express (Weekly) (via Vizionagaram-Raipur)

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Track fracture in South Central Railway

533. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rail track from Vijayawada to Samalkot in South Central Railway has been frequently identified as prone to "track fracture";

(b) whether it is also a fact that no steps have been taken to reduce the occurrence of track fracure in this sector; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to rectify this problem?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Necessary steps e.g. ultrasonic flaw detection of rails and replacement of defective rails have been taken to reduce the incidence of rail fractures all over Indian Railways including this sector.

(c) Does not arise.

Non punctuality of South Central Express Trains

534. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Express trains in South Central Railway are not maintaining punctuality;

(b) if so, what is the punctuality record of 'Gowthami Express' in recent times; and

(c) what steps Government propose to properly monitor the proper running of Express trains in South Central Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Mail/Express trains in